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PATENT

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventor	:	SCHUTZ, Jared P.
Serial No.	:	09/149,650
Filed	:	8 September 1998
For	:	COMPUTERIZED CONTROL SYSTEM LOCATED AT AN ORDER CENTER FOR SHIPPING PRODUCT FROM A REMOTELY LOCATED DISTRIBUTION CENTER
Group Art Unit	:	2164
Examiner	:	G. Akers

The Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**AMENDED VERSION OF THE CLAIMS**

S I R:

Set forth below is the amended version of the claims.

7. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 3, further including the steps of:

receiving a message at the order center apparatus, from an ordering system including a computer, said message from a user of the ordering system to a recipient of the flowers; and wherein:

the step of linking includes linking the signals representing the packing list with the signals representing the message;

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the step of printing includes printing the message, along with [the] packing list and a shipping label, at the printing device at the distribution center; and

the step of shipping is carried out by shipping the message, along with the product, from the distribution center.

12. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein the step of printing is carried out with the printing device being a fax machine; and further including the step of connecting the fax machine to a communications system for [the] receiving of the signals representing the packing list and for receiving the shipping information signals.

13. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the step of connecting includes [transmitting] connecting via an open end network gateway to a remote fax server [for a subsequent communication] and connecting the remote fax server to the fax machine.

14. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the step of connecting includes [transmitting to] connecting a remote fax server with a fax modem in a local calling area of the distribution center [for a subsequent communication] and connecting the fax modem to the fax machine.

15. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 3, further including the steps of:  
associating an order code [signals] with [each] said order [at the order center apparatus];

obtaining shipping status information [signals] from the shipping apparatus; and  
[combining] associating the order code [signals] with the shipping status information [signals] at a machine-readable site having a network gateway address [for] in

facilitating access by an ordering system, including a computer, to determine an order code shipping status associated with the order.

16. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein said step of shipping includes shipping th[is]e product in packaging displaying a network gateway address [to] in facilitat[e]ing an electronic communication from an ordering system, including a computer, to the order center apparatus.

17. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 3, [wherein the step of producing includes] further including the steps of:

connecting an ordering system, including a computer, to a network gateway; and connecting the network gateway to the order center apparatus.

18. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 3, further including the steps of:

receiving ordering information at the order center by telephone; and \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ entering the ordering information as input data to the order center apparatus in producing the signals representing the packing list.

20. (Once Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of printing includes printing on a sheet in the printer device; and further including the step of locating a demarcation[s] on a sheet in the printer device [to facilitate] for detaching the packing list [and] from a shipping label.

21. (Once Amended) The method of claim [20] 1, wherein the step of printing includes printing on a sheet in the printer device; and further including the step of [is carried out

with] locating the [demarcations including] perforation[s to] on the sheet for detaching a shipping label from the packing [list from the shipping label] at the perforation.

22. (Once Amended) The method of claim 1, further including the steps of:

[entering more of the input data at the input device to produce more of the output electrical signals representing a customized message received] receiving signals representing a customized component at the order center apparatus, from an ordering system including a computer, the customized component including a message [for communication] from a user of the ordering system to a recipient of the product; and wherein:

the step of linking includes linking[, by digital communication,] the signals representing the packing list with the signals representing the customized [element] component;

[the step of transmitting includes transmitting the signals representing the customized element, along with the shipping information signals, to the printer device at the distribution center;]

the step of printing includes printing the customized [element] component, along with the packing list and a shipping label, at the printing device at the distribution center; and

the step of shipping is carried out by shipping the customized [element] component, along with the product, from the distribution center.

23. (Once Amended) The method of claim 22, wherein the step of printing the customized component includes printing the message on a greeting card at the distribution center.

24. (Once Amended) The method of claim 22, wherein the step of printing is

carried out by locating a sheet in the printer, the sheet including a greeting card for the message and having preprinted artwork and a demarcation[s] for detaching the greeting card from the packing list [and the shipping label]; and [wherein] further including the step of [shipping includes] separating the pack[ag]ing list[, the shipping information, and] from the greeting card by tearing the sheet at the demarcation[s].

25. (Once Amended) The method of claim 22, wherein the step of printing the customized element includes printing a graphical element as part of the customized [message] component.

26. (Once Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of assigning the waybill shipping information signals includes dynamically assigning the shipping information signals through a TCP/IP connection.

27. (Once Amended) The method of claim 1, further including the step of:  
[prior to the step of transmitting,] translating some of the signals, at the order center apparatus, to produce the signals representing the packing list and the shipping signals in one digital format.

28. (Once Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the step[s] of [transmitting and] printing [are] is carried out [with] by using a fax machine as the printing device [being a fax machine]; and further including the step of connecting the fax machine to a communications system for the receiving of the signals representing the packing list [and the shipping information signals].

29. (Once Amended) The method of claim 28, wherein the step of connecting [transmitting] includes [transmitting] connecting via a network gateway to a remote fax server [for a subsequent transmitting over the communications system] and connecting the remote fax server to the fax machine.

30. (Once Amended) The method of claim 28, wherein the step of [transmitting] connecting includes [transmitting] connecting to a remote fax server with a fax modem in a local calling area of the distribution center for a subsequent [transmitting to over the communications system] communication to the fax machine.

31. (Once Amended) The method of claim 1, further including the steps of:  
associating an order code [signals] with [each] said order [at the order center apparatus];

obtaining shipping status information [signals] from the [digital electrical computer] shipping [system] apparatus; and

[combining] associating the order code [signals] with the status information [signals] at a machine-readable site having a network [gateway] address [for] in facilitating access by [an ordering system, including a digital electrical] computer to determine the shipping status associated with the order.

32. (Once Amended) The method of claim 1, [further including the step of printing] wherein said step of shipping includes shipping the product in packaging displaying a network gateway address [on packaging for the product] to facilitate an electronic communication from an ordering system, including a computer, [digital electrical computer] to the order center apparatus.

33. (Once Amended) The method of claim 1, [wherein the step of producing includes] further including the steps of:

[making the processor electrically connected to the input device by electrically connecting [the input device to] an ordering system, including a [digital electrical] computer [and electrically connecting the ordering system digital electrical computer] to a network gateway[,];

and

\_\_\_\_\_ [electrically] connecting the network gateway to the [processor] order center apparatus.

34. (Once Amended) The method of claim 1, further including the steps of [providing telephones at the order center for] receiving [acoustic] ordering information at the order center by telephone; and

\_\_\_\_\_ entering the ordering information [for use] as [the] input data to the order center apparatus in producing the signals representing the packing list.

35. (Once Amended) The method of claim 1, further including the steps of:  
prior to carrying out the step of shipping the product, verifying availability on a charge card [availability] to pay for the product [by] with an electrical communication from the order center apparatus to a charge card [digital electrical computer] system, including a computer [prior to shipping the product]; and

subsequent to carrying out the step of shipping the product, [processing the shipping information to trigger] sending a second electronic communication to the charge card system to obtain payment [digital electrical computer system charging the payment to the charge card subsequent to the shipping the product] for the product.

36. (Once Amended) The method of claim 35, [wherein the step of communicating data representing the shipping information to the digital electrical computer apparatus at the order center includes] further including the steps of:

scanning a shipping label to obtain scanning data;

transmitting the scanning data to [the digital electrical computer apparatus at the order center apparatus for processing the shipping information to] trigger the step of [charging of the charge card] sending a second electronic communication.

38. (Thrice Amended) A [combination of machines and] method for using an order center apparatus to ship a product [an article of manufacture for use in the method of claim 1], the method including the steps of:

[locating] receiving an order from a web site at [an] the order center apparatus located at an order center, the order center apparatus including a computer having a processor[, controlled by]

controlling the processor with a computer program to produce signals representing a packing list for [an] the order[, the article of manufacture responsive to receiving the order from a web site];

receiving a waybill tracking number from a shipping system including a computer;

associating signals representing [a] the waybill tracking number[, receiving from a shipping system including a computer,] with said signals representing the order;

locating a printer device at a distribution center [located remotely] separate from the order center and separate from the shipping system[for receiving the signals representing the packing list and for] printing [a] the packing list at the printer device from the signals



representing the packing list; [and]

\_\_\_\_\_ printing the packing list at the printer device from the signals representing the packing list; and

locating the article of manufacture on the packing list packaging for [the product for] product identified by the packing list in packaging for courier shipment from the distribution center according to [the shipping information signals] a waybill corresponding to the waybill tracking number.

39. (Twice Amended) A method for [making an apparatus] using an order center apparatus to ship a product [for the method of claim 1], the method including the steps of:

providing [an] the order center apparatus [located] at an order center, the order center apparatus including a [digital electrical] computer having a processor[, the processor electrically connected to a memory device for storing and retrieving machine-readable signals in the memory device, to an input device for receiving input data and converting the input data into input electrical signals, to an output device for converting output electrical signals into output, the processor] controlled by a computer program [to the] in produc[e]ing [circuitry connections in the processor in producing the output electrical signals from the input electrical signals, including generating] output signals representing a packing list for an order of [a] the product [from the input data entered at the input device];

producing waybill shipping information signals [providing a digital electrical computer] at a shipping system, including a computer [controlled by a program to assign shipping information to the order];

\_\_\_\_\_ linking the order center apparatus [and the shipping system] to a communications system, including the Internet, for transmitting the electrical signals representing the packing list[ and the shipping information signals];

linking the shipping system to a communications system, including the Internet,  
for transmitting the electrical signals representing the packing list;

locating [linking[ a printer device linked to the communications system at a  
distribution center separate from the ordering center and separate from the shipping system;  
[for] \_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ receiving the signals representing the packing list at the printer device;  
\_\_\_\_\_receiving the [signals representing the] packing list and receiving the waybill  
shipping information signals at the [distribution center] printer device;

\_\_\_\_\_ printing a waybill at the printer from the waybill shipping information signals;  
\_\_\_\_\_ [and for] printing a packing list from the signals representing the packing list; and  
shipping the product specified by the packing list, according to the waybill,  
[shipping information signals, and] from the distribution center.

40.(Once Amended) The method of [any one of] claim[s] 1[-34, 36, 37,] wherein  
any one of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication,  
and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by  
communicating over the Internet.

40.(Once Amended) The method of [any one of] claim[s] 1[34, 36, 37,] wherein  
any two of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication,  
and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by  
communicating over the Internet.

41.(Once Amended) The method of [any one of] claim[s] 1[34, 36, 37,] wherein  
all of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and

[transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

42. (Once Amended) The method of [any one of] claim[s] 1[-34, 36, 37,] wherein all of the steps of assigning shipping information signals linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

43. A method for using an order center [a digital electrical computer] apparatus to enable a user of an ordering system to [located at an order center for] ship[ping] the product as a gift and a [customizable] message to a recipient, the method including the steps of:

[producing output electrical signals representing a the gift by causing an order center apparatus located at an order center to change input digital electrical signals into the output digital electrical signals, the order center apparatus including a digital electrical computer having a programmed processor, the processor electrically connected to a memory device for storing and retrieving machine-readable signals in the memory device, to an input device for receiving input data and converting the input data into the input electrical signals, and to an output device for receiving the output electrical signals];

specifying the gift, and communicating the [consumer] user-composed greeting message, for [to] the recipient by [electrically] connecting the [input device to an] ordering system, [digital electrical] including a computer, [, electrically connecting the ordering system digital electrical computer] to a web site [with resources for specifying the gift and for specifying the consumer composed message to the recipient, and]

\_\_\_\_\_ [electrically] connecting the web site to the [processor; and] order center

apparatus located at an order center, the apparatus including a processor controlled by a computer program;

shipping the gift to the recipient; and

using the processor to communicat[ing]e the [consumer] user-composed greeting message to the recipient.

44. (Once Amended) The method of claim 4[4]3, wherein the step of [specifying] communicating the [gift and the consumer] user-composed greeting message [to the recipient] is carried out [with the web site with resources including] by using Blue Mountain-type greeting card and [includes specifying] a graphical element.

45. (Once Amended) The method of claim 4[4]3, wherein the step of [specifying] communicating [the gift and] the [consumer] user-composed greeting message [to the recipient] is carried out [with the web site with resources including] by using Blue Mountain-type greeting card and [includes specifying a specifying the gift and the consumer-composed message to the recipient is carried out with the web site with resources including Blue Mountain-type greeting card and includes specifying] a [graphical element] customized component.

46. (Once Amended) The method of claim 4[4]3, wherein the step of [specifying] communicating the user-composed greeting message to the recipient is carried out [with the web site with resources including a] ] by using Blue Mountain-type greeting card.

47. (Once Amended) A method for using [a digital electrical computer] an order center apparatus [located at an order center] to implement a delivery customized and fulfilled just for a recipient, the method including the steps of:

producing output electrical signals representing a list of necessary intermediates of a flower arrangement for a delivery customized and fulfilled just for a recipient by causing an order center apparatus located at an order center to change input digital electrical signals received from an Internet web page into the output digital electrical signals, the order center apparatus including a [digital electrical] computer having a processor, the processor [electrically connected to a memory device for storing and retrieving machine-readable signals in the memory device, to an input device for receiving input data and converting the input data into the input electrical signals, and to an output device for receiving the output electrical signals, and wherein the processor is] controlled by a computer program [to implement the step of producing];

assigning [shipping] waybill tracking information signals to the order;

linking, by digital communication, the signals representing the list with the shipping information signals;

[transmitting] communicating the signals representing the list to[, and receiving the signals representing the list at,] a printer device at a distribution center located [remotely] separately from the order center; and

making the delivery customized and fulfilled just for the recipient by way bill shipment, [as specified by the list, in accordance with] and reflected in the [shipping] waybill tracking information signals, from the distribution center.

48. (Once Amended) The method of claim 4[4]3, further including the step of communicating an email confirmation of the order [including a portion of the output signals sent by the digital electrical] computer to an electronic address of the ordering system.

49. (Once Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein any two of the steps of

assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

50. (Once Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein any two of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

51. (Once Amended) The method of claim 4, wherein any two of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [~~transmitting~~] receiving] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

52. (Once Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein any two of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

53. (Once Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein any two of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

54. (Once Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein any two of the steps of

assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

55. (Once Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein any two of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

56. (Once Amended) The method of claim 9, wherein any two of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

57. (Once Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein any two of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

58. (Once Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein any two of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

59. (Once Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein any two of the steps of

assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

60. (Once Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein any two of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

61. (Once Amended) The method of claim 14, wherein any two of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

62. (Once Amended) The method of claim 15, wherein any two of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

63. (Once Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein any two of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

64. (Once Amended) The method of claim 17, wherein any two of the steps of



assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

65. (Once Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein any two of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

66. (Once Amended) The method of claim 19, wherein any two of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

67. (Once Amended) The method of claim 20, wherein any two of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

68. (Once Amended) The method of claim 21, wherein any two of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

69. (Once Amended) The method of claim 22, wherein any two of the steps of

assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

70. (Once Amended) The method of claim 23, wherein any two of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

71. (Once Amended) The method of claim 24, wherein any two of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

72. (Once Amended) The method of claim 25, wherein any two of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

73. (Once Amended) The method of claim 26, wherein any two of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

74. (Once Amended) The method of claim 27, wherein any two of the steps of

assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

75. (Once Amended) The method of claim 28, wherein any two of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

76. (Once Amended) The method of claim 29, wherein any two of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

77. (Once Amended) The method of claim 30, wherein any two of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

78. (Once Amended) The method of claim 31, wherein any two of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

79. (Once Amended) The method of claim 32, wherein any two of the steps of

assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

80. (Once Amended) The method of claim 33, wherein any two of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

81. (Once Amended) The method of claim 34, wherein any two of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

82. (Once Amended) The method of claim 35, wherein any two of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

83. (Once Amended) The method of claim 36, wherein any two of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

84. (Once Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein all of the steps of

assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

85. (Once Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein all of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

86. (Once Amended) The method of claim 4, wherein all of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

87. (Once Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein all of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

88. (Once Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein all of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

89. (Once Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein all of the steps of

assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

90. (Once Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein all of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

91. (Once Amended) The method of claim 9, wherein all of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

92. (Once Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein all of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

93. (Once Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein all of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

94. (Once Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein all of the steps of

assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

95. (Once Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein all of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

96. (Once Amended) The method of claim 14, wherein all of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

97. (Once Amended) The method of claim 15, wherein all of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

98. (Once Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein all of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

99. (Once Amended) The method of claim 17, wherein all of the steps of

assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

100. (Once Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein all of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

101. (Once Amended) The method of claim 19, wherein all of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

102. (Once Amended) The method of claim 20, wherein all of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

103. (Once Amended) The method of claim 21, wherein all of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

104. (Once Amended) The method of claim 22, wherein all of the steps of



assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting]  
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Internet.

105. (Once Amended)      The method of claim 23, wherein all of the steps of  
assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting]  
receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the  
Internet.

106. (Once Amended)      The method of claim 24, wherein all of the steps of  
assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting]  
receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the  
Internet.

107. (Once Amended)      The method of claim 25, wherein all of the steps of  
assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting]  
receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the  
Internet.

108. (Once Amended)      The method of claim 26, wherein all of the steps of  
assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting]  
receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the  
Internet.

109. (Once Amended)      The method of claim 27, wherein all of the steps of

assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting]  
receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the  
Internet.

110. (Once Amended)      The method of claim 28, wherein all of the steps of  
assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting]  
receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the  
Internet.

111. (Once Amended)      The method of claim 29, wherein all of the steps of  
assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting]  
receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the  
Internet.

112 (Once Amended) .      The method of claim 30, wherein all of the steps of  
assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting]  
receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the  
Internet.

113. (Once Amended)      The method of claim 31, wherein all of the steps of  
assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting]  
receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the  
Internet.

114. (Once Amended)      The method of claim 32, wherein all of the steps of

assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

115. (Once Amended) The method of claim 33, wherein all of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

116. (Once Amended) The method of claim 34, wherein all of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

117. (Once Amended) The method of claim 35, wherein all of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

118. (Once Amended) The method of claim 36, wherein all of the steps of assigning shipping information signals, linking by digital communication, and [transmitting] receiving the signals representing the packing list is carried out by communicating over the Internet.

119. (Once Amended) A [combination including a shipped product

produced by the process of claim 2] method for making a product for shipping by using an order center apparatus, the method including the steps of:

producing signals representing a packing list for an order of the product with the order center apparatus, located at an order center, the order center apparatus including a computer having a programmed processor;

assigning waybill shipping information signals to the order with a shipping apparatus including a digital computer;

linking, by digital communication, the signals representing the packing list with the waybill shipping information signals;

receiving the signals representing the packing list at a printer device at a distribution center located separately from the order center;

printing the packing list at the printer device; [and]

producing the product; and

shipping the product specified by the packing list, in accordance with the waybill shipping information signals, from the distribution center.

120. (Once Amended)      A [combination including a shipped product produced by the process of claim 3] method for making a product for shipping by using an order center apparatus, the method including the steps of:

receiving an order from a web site at the order center apparatus located at an order center, the order center apparatus including a computer having a processor;

controlling the processor with a computer program to the produce signals representing a packing list for the order;

receiving a waybill tracking number receiving from a shipping system including a computer;

associating signals representing the waybill tracking number with said signals representing the order;

locating a printer device at a distribution center separate from the order center and separate from the shipping system;

printing the packing list at the printer device from the signals representing the packing list;

making the product; and

locating the product identified by the packing list in packaging for courier shipment from the distribution center according to a waybill corresponding to the waybill tracking number.

121. (Once Amended) A [combination including a shipped product produced by the process of claim 4] method for making a product for shipping by using an order center apparatus, the method including the steps of:

providing the order center apparatus at an order center, the order center apparatus including a computer having a processor controlled by a computer program in producing output signals representing a packing list for an order of the product;

producing waybill shipping information signals at a shipping system, including a computer;

linking the order center apparatus to a communications system, including the Internet, for transmitting the electrical signals representing the packing list;

linking the shipping system to a communications system, including the Internet, for transmitting the electrical signals representing the packing list;

locating a printer device linked to the communications system at a distribution center separate from the ordering center and separate from the shipping system;

receiving the packing list at the printer device;  
receiving the signals representing the waybill shipping information signals at the printer device;  
printing a waybill at the printer from the waybill shipping information signals;  
printing a packing list from the signals representing the packing list;  
producing the product; and  
shipping the product specified by the packing list, according to the waybill, from the distribution center.

122. (Once Amended) A [combination including a shipped product produced by the process of claim 5] method for making a product for shipping by using an order center apparatus, the method including the steps of:

enabling a user of an ordering system to ship the product as a gift and communicate a message to a recipient by connecting the ordering system, including a computer, to a web site;  
connecting the web site to the order center apparatus located at an order center, the apparatus including a processor controlled by a computer program;  
making the product;  
shipping the product as the gift to the recipient; and  
using the processor to communicate the user-composed greeting message to the recipient.

123. (Once Amended) A [combination including a shipped product produced by the process of claim 6] method for making a product for shipping by using an order center apparatus to implement a delivery customized and fulfilled just for a recipient, the

method including the steps of:

producing output electrical signals representing a list of necessary intermediates of a flower arrangement as the product for a delivery customized and fulfilled just for a recipient by causing an order center apparatus located at an order center to change input digital electrical signals received from an Internet web page into the output digital electrical signals, the order center apparatus including a computer having a processor, the processor controlled by a computer program;

assigning waybill tracking information signals to the order;

linking, by digital communication, the signals representing the list with the shipping information signals;

communicating the signals representing the list to a printer device at a distribution center located remotely from the order center;

making the product; and

making the delivery customized and fulfilled just for the recipient, as specified by the list, in accordance with the waybill tracking information signals, from the distribution center.

124. (Once Amended) [A combination including a shipped product produced by the process of] The method of claim [7] 38, further including the steps of:  
prior to carrying out the step of shipping the product, verifying availability on a charge card to pay for the product with an electrical communication from the order center apparatus to a charge card system, including a computer; and  
subsequent to carrying out the step of shipping the product, sending a second electronic communication to the charge card system to obtain payment for the product.

125. (Once Amended) [A combination including a shipped product produced by the process of] The method of claim [8] 39, further including the steps of:  
prior to carrying out the step of shipping the product, verifying availability on a  
charge card to pay for the product with an electrical communication from the order center  
apparatus to a charge card system, including a computer; and  
subsequent to carrying out the step of shipping the product, sending a second  
electronic communication to the charge card system to obtain payment for the product.

126. (Once Amended) [A combination including a shipped product produced by the process of] The method of claim [9] 43, further including the steps of:  
prior to carrying out the step of shipping the product, verifying availability on a  
charge card to pay for the product with an electrical communication from the order center  
apparatus to a charge card system, including a computer; and  
subsequent to carrying out the step of shipping the product, sending a second  
electronic communication to the charge card system to obtain payment for the product.

127. (Once Amended) [A combination including a shipped product produced by the process of] The method of claim [10] 47, further including the steps of:  
prior to carrying out the step of shipping the product, verifying availability on a  
charge card to pay for the product with an electrical communication from the order center  
apparatus to a charge card system, including a computer; and  
subsequent to carrying out the step of shipping the product, sending a second  
electronic communication to the charge card system to obtain payment for the product.

128. (Once Amended) [A combination including a shipped product



produced by the process of] claim [11] 119, further including the steps of:

\_\_\_\_\_ prior to carrying out the step of shipping the product, verifying availability on a charge card to pay for the product with an electrical communication from the order center apparatus to a charge card system, including a computer; and

\_\_\_\_\_ subsequent to carrying out the step of shipping the product, sending a second electronic communication to the charge card system to obtain payment for the product.

129. (Once Amended) [A combination including a shipped product produced by the process of] The method of claim [12] 120, further including the steps of:

\_\_\_\_\_ prior to carrying out the step of shipping the product, verifying availability on a charge card to pay for the product with an electrical communication from the order center apparatus to a charge card system, including a computer; and

\_\_\_\_\_ subsequent to carrying out the step of shipping the product, sending a second electronic communication to the charge card system to obtain payment for the product.

130. (Once Amended) [A combination including a shipped product produced by the process of] The method of claim [13] 121, further including the steps of:

\_\_\_\_\_ prior to carrying out the step of shipping the product, verifying availability on a charge card to pay for the product with an electrical communication from the order center apparatus to a charge card system, including a computer; and

\_\_\_\_\_ subsequent to carrying out the step of shipping the product, sending a second electronic communication to the charge card system to obtain payment for the product.

131. (Once Amended) [A combination including a shipped product produced by the process of] The method of claim [14] 122, further including the steps of:

prior to carrying out the step of shipping the product, verifying availability on a charge card to pay for the product with an electrical communication from the order center apparatus to a charge card system, including a computer; and

subsequent to carrying out the step of shipping the product, sending a second electronic communication to the charge card system to obtain payment for the product.

132. (Once Amended) [A combination including a shipped product produced by the process of] The method of claim [15] 123, further including the steps of:  
prior to carrying out the step of shipping the product, verifying availability on a charge card to pay for the product with an electrical communication from the order center apparatus to a charge card system, including a computer; and

subsequent to carrying out the step of shipping the product, sending a second electronic communication to the charge card system to obtain payment for the product.

133. (Once Amended) [A combination including a shipped product produced by the process of] The method of claim [16] 2, further including the steps of:  
prior to carrying out the step of shipping the product, verifying availability on a charge card to pay for the product with an electrical communication from the order center apparatus to a charge card system, including a computer; and

subsequent to carrying out the step of shipping the product, sending a second electronic communication to the charge card system to obtain payment for the product.

134. (Once Amended) [A combination including a shipped product produced by the process of] The method of claim [17] 3, further including the steps of:  
prior to carrying out the step of shipping the product, verifying availability on a

charge card to pay for the product with an electrical communication from the order center  
apparatus to a charge card system, including a computer; and  
\_\_\_\_\_ subsequent to carrying out the step of shipping the product, sending a second  
electronic communication to the charge card system to obtain payment for the product.

135. (Once Amended) [A combination including a shipped product  
produced by the process of] The method of claim [18] 4, further including the steps of:  
\_\_\_\_\_ prior to carrying out the step of shipping the product, verifying availability on a  
charge card to pay for the product with an electrical communication from the order center  
apparatus to a charge card system, including a computer; and  
\_\_\_\_\_ subsequent to carrying out the step of shipping the product, sending a second  
electronic communication to the charge card system to obtain payment for the product.

136. (Once Amended) [A combination including a shipped product  
produced by the process of] The method of claim [19] 7, further including the steps of:  
\_\_\_\_\_ prior to carrying out the step of shipping the product, verifying availability on a  
charge card to pay for the product with an electrical communication from the order center  
apparatus to a charge card system, including a computer; and  
\_\_\_\_\_ subsequent to carrying out the step of shipping the product, sending a second  
electronic communication to the charge card system to obtain payment for the product.

137. (Once Amended) [A combination including a shipped product  
produced by the process of] The method of claim [20] 15, further including the steps of:  
\_\_\_\_\_ prior to carrying out the step of shipping the product, verifying availability on a  
charge card to pay for the product with an electrical communication from the order center

apparatus to a charge card system, including a computer; and

subsequent to carrying out the step of shipping the product, sending a second electronic communication to the charge card system to obtain payment for the product.

138. (Once Amended) [A combination including a shipped product produced by the process of] The method of claim [21] 22, further including the steps of:

prior to carrying out the step of shipping the product, verifying availability on a charge card to pay for the product with an electrical communication from the order center apparatus to a charge card system, including a computer; and

subsequent to carrying out the step of shipping the product, sending a second electronic communication to the charge card system to obtain payment for the product.

139. (Once Amended) [A combination including a shipped product produced by the process of] The method of claim [22] 27, further including the steps of:

prior to carrying out the step of shipping the product, verifying availability on a charge card to pay for the product with an electrical communication from the order center apparatus to a charge card system, including a computer; and

subsequent to carrying out the step of shipping the product, sending a second electronic communication to the charge card system to obtain payment for the product.

140. (Once Amended) [A combination including a shipped product produced by the process of] The method of claim [23] 1, further including the steps of:

providing a telephone for receiving ordering information as an alternative to receiving the ordering information; and

entering into the order center apparatus as an alternative to receiving the

ordering information over the Internet.

141. (Once Amended) [A combination including a shipped product produced by the process of] The method of claim [24] 2, further including the steps of:  
\_\_\_\_\_ providing a telephone for receiving ordering information as an alternative to  
receiving the ordering information; and  
\_\_\_\_\_ entering into the order center apparatus as an alternative to receiving the  
ordering information over the Internet.

142. (Once Amended) [A combination including a shipped product produced by the process of] The method of claim [25] 3, further including the steps of:  
\_\_\_\_\_ providing a telephone for receiving ordering information as an alternative to  
receiving the ordering information; and  
\_\_\_\_\_ entering into the order center apparatus as an alternative to receiving the  
ordering information over the Internet.

143. (Once Amended) [A combination including a shipped product produced by the process of] The method of claim [26] 4, further including the steps of:  
\_\_\_\_\_ providing a telephone for receiving ordering information as an alternative to  
receiving the ordering information; and  
\_\_\_\_\_ entering into the order center apparatus as an alternative to receiving the  
ordering information over the Internet.

144. (Once Amended) [A combination including a shipped product produced by the process of] The method of claim [2]7, further including the steps of:

providing a telephone for receiving ordering information as an alternative to receiving the ordering information; and

entering into the order center apparatus as an alternative to receiving the ordering information over the Internet.

145. (Once Amended) [A combination including a shipped product produced by the process of] The method of claim [28] 15, further including the steps of:

providing a telephone for receiving ordering information as an alternative to receiving the ordering information; and

entering into the order center apparatus as an alternative to receiving the ordering information over the Internet.

146. (Once Amended) [A combination including a shipped product produced by the process of] The method of claim [29] 27, further including the steps of:

providing a telephone for receiving ordering information as an alternative to receiving the ordering information; and

entering into the order center apparatus as an alternative to receiving the ordering information over the Internet.

147. (Once Amended) [A combination including a shipped product produced by the process of] The method of claim [30] 38, further including the steps of:

providing a telephone for receiving ordering information as an alternative to receiving the ordering information; and

entering into the order center apparatus as an alternative to receiving the ordering information over the Internet.

148. (Once Amended) [A combination including a shipped product produced by the process of] The method of claim [31] 39, further including the steps of:  
providing a telephone for receiving ordering information as an alternative to  
receiving the ordering information; and  
entering into the order center apparatus as an alternative to receiving the  
ordering information over the Internet.

149. (Once Amended) [A combination including a shipped product produced by the process of] The method of claim [32] 47, further including the steps of:  
providing a telephone for receiving ordering information as an alternative to  
receiving the ordering information; and  
entering into the order center apparatus as an alternative to receiving the  
ordering information over the Internet.

150. (Once Amended) [A combination including a shipped product produced by the process of] The method of claim [33] 119, further including the steps of:  
providing a telephone for receiving ordering information as an alternative to  
receiving the ordering information; and  
entering into the order center apparatus as an alternative to receiving the  
ordering information over the Internet.

151. (Once Amended) [A combination including a shipped product produced by the process of] The method of claim [34] 120, further including the steps of:  
providing a telephone for receiving ordering information as an alternative to

receiving the ordering information; and

entering into the order center apparatus as an alternative to receiving the ordering information over the Internet.

152. (Once Amended) [A combination including a shipped product produced by the process] The method of claim [35] 121, further including the steps of:  
providing a telephone for receiving ordering information as an alternative to receiving the ordering information; and

entering into the order center apparatus as an alternative to receiving the ordering information over the Internet.

153. (Once Amended) [A combination including a shipped product produced by the process] The method of claim [36] 1, further including the step of communicating an email confirmation of the order.

269. (Once Amended) The method of claim 1, further including the step of providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in accordance with the order].

270. (Once Amended) The method of claim 2, further including the step of providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in accordance with the order].

271. (Once Amended) The method of claim 3, further including the step of providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in



accordance with the order].

272. (Once Amended) The method of claim 4, further including the step of providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in accordance with the order].

273. (Once Amended) The method of claim 5, further including the step of providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in accordance with the order].

274. (Once Amended) The method of claim 6, further including the step of providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in accordance with the order].

275. (Once Amended) The method of claim 7, further including the step of providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in accordance with the order].

276. (Once Amended) The method of claim 8, further including the step of providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in accordance with the order].

277. (Once Amended) The method of claim 9, further including the step of providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in accordance with the order].

278. (Once Amended) The method of claim 10, further including the step of

providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in accordance with the order].

279. (Once Amended) The method of claim 11, further including the step of providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in accordance with the order].

280. (Once Amended) The method of claim 12, further including the step of providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in accordance with the order].

281. (Once Amended) The method of claim 13, further including the step of providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in accordance with the order].

282. (Once Amended) The method of claim 14, further including the step of providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in accordance with the order].

283. (Once Amended) The method of claim 15, further including the step of providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in accordance with the order].

284. (Once Amended) The method of claim 16, further including the step of providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in accordance with the order].

285. (Once Amended) The method of claim 17, further including the step of providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in accordance with the order].

286. (Once Amended) The method of claim 18, further including the step of providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in accordance with the order].

287. (Once Amended) The method of claim 19, further including the step of providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in accordance with the order].

288. (Once Amended) The method of claim 20, further including the step of providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in accordance with the order].

289. (Once Amended) The method of claim 21, further including the step of providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in accordance with the order].

290. (Once Amended) The method of claim 22, further including the step of providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in accordance with the order].

291. (Once Amended) The method of claim 23, further including the step of providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in accordance with the order].

292. (Once Amended) The method of claim 24, further including the step of providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in accordance with the order].

293. (Once Amended) The method of claim 25, further including the step of providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in accordance with the order].

294. (Once Amended) The method of claim 26, further including the step of providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in accordance with the order].

295. (Once Amended) The method of claim 27, further including the step of providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in accordance with the order].

296. (Once Amended) The method of claim 28, further including the step of providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in accordance with the order].

297. (Once Amended) The method of claim 29, further including the step of providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in accordance with the order].

298. (Once Amended) The method of claim 30, further including the step of providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in accordance with the order].

299. (Once Amended) The method of claim 31, further including the step of providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in accordance with the order].

300. (Once Amended) The method of claim 32, further including the step of providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in accordance with the order].

301. (Once Amended) The method of claim 33, further including the step of providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in accordance with the order].

302. (Once Amended) The method of claim 34, further including the step of providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in accordance with the order].

303. (Once Amended) The method of claim 35, further including the step of providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in accordance with the order].

304. (Once Amended) The method of claim 36, further including the step of providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in accordance with the order].

305. (Once Amended) The method of claim 37, further including the step of providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in accordance with the order].

306. (Once Amended) The method of claim 38, further including the step of providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in accordance with the order].

307. (Once Amended) The method of claim 39, further including the step of providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in accordance with the order].

308. (Once Amended) The method of claim 40, further including the step of providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in accordance with the order].

309. (Once Amended) The method of claim 41, further including the step of providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in accordance with the order].

310. (Once Amended) The method of claim 42, further including the step of providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in accordance with the order].

311. (Once Amended) The method of claim 43, further including the step of providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in accordance with the order].

312. (Once Amended) The method of claim 44, further including the step of providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in accordance with the order].

313. (Once Amended) The method of claim 45, further including the step of providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in accordance with the order].

314. (Once Amended) The method of claim 46, further including the step of providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in accordance with the order].

315. (Once Amended) The method of claim 47, further including the step of providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in accordance with the order].

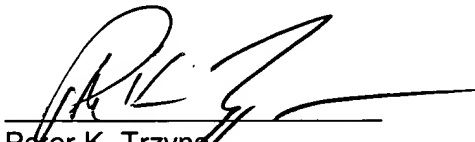
316. (Once Amended) The method of claim 48, further including the step of providing order tracking and delivery information over the Internet [for waybill shipping in accordance with the order].

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with the above-identified patent application or credit any overcharges to Deposit Account No. 50-0235.

If the prosecution of this case can be in any way advanced by a telephone discussion, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (312) 240-0824.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: July 9, 2002

  
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